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USSR

Ref. No. : 3/NBP/T1659 (of 29/10/1964)

Issued : 30/12/1964

Copy No. : 201.

REISSUE

PROPOSAL THAT "CROAT" SHOULD ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT
IN THE BRITISH LEGATION (1963)

From : STOCKHOLM

To : MOSCOW

No. : 3374

17 Dec. 63

To VIKTOR[i].

✓ As a result of the new factors in the YUGOSLAV question, "CROAT" a [Khorvat] [ii] [B% chief] [8 groups unrecovered]. We cannot undertake to pay "CROAT's" living expenses in full (approximately Kr. 1,500). If you yourself do not agree to [1 group unrecovered] a recommendation of "CROAT" [a] to the new Minister [b], please give permission for him to enter the service of the British Legation; they have been inviting him to go there, but he has refused categorically. I think that I shall be successful in persuading CROAT to take the latter course, which would [1 group unrecovered] our [C% turnover] and increase his potentialities.

On 14 December AVAKUMOVICH [iii], the Yugoslav Minister in STOCKHOLM, said in a conversation with CROAT: "How [1 group unrecovered] [C% it seems] the British [1 group unrecovered] themselves in supporting [B% TITO] [iv] [1 group unrecovered] MOSCOW [iv]. Only a fool would believe that the British [1 group unrecovered] on [B% TITO's] side. The British have only one aim: [B% under the guise] of friendship to carry out MOSCOW's wishes, as long as there is [o] no [1 group unrecovered] USSR in BELGRADE. [v] AMERICA and BRITAIN want to weaken the USSR as much as possible and then, when it suits them, they will come out against MOSCOW and, [C% of course], against the Yugoslav [B% partisans]."

No. 606

VALERIAN [vi]

[Notes and Comments over

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Notes: [a] The sense of this passage is obscure. The Russian could also be taken to mean "recommendation made by CROAT". This is perhaps a better interpretation linguistically, but does not fit the context.

[b] The diplomatic rank.

[c] Or "are".

Comments: [i] VIKTOR : Lt. Gen. P. M. FITIN.

[ii] CROAT : Unidentified cover-name. See also STOCKHOLM's No.3199 of 29 November 1943 (3/NBP/T1658).

[iii] AVAKUNOVICH : Aleksandr AVAKUNOVICH, Yugoslav Minister in STOCKHOLM.

[iv] TITO : On 30 November 1943 TITO's supporters had set up a National Liberation Committee to act as the Provisional Government of YUGOSLAVIA. A statement by Mr. Eden in the House of Commons on 14 December had officially explained that it was British policy to support in YUGOSLAVIA all "elements which are actively resisting the enemy". He added that a British military mission had been with TITO since the spring of that year and munitions and supplies had been made available to his forces.

[v] The Soviet Military Mission arrived in Yugoslavia on 22 February 1944.

[vi] VALERIAN : Vasilij Fedorovich RAZIN, 1st Secretary at the Soviet Legation in STOCKHOLM.

